GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1654
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2016
Millennium Development Goals
Rajbhar Shri Hari Narayan

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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(a) whether Primary Health Services needs to be strengthened to achieve Millennium Development goals with a view to bring down the child mortality rate to two third by the year 2015; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including Uttar Pradesh and the steps being taken by the Government for this purpose?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) & (b): Yes. The Government of India is implementing the following interventions under the National Health Mission (NHM) all across the country, including the State of Uttar Pradesh, to strengthen primary health care services, while maintaining a continuum of care from community to facility in order to reduce child mortality rate:

i. Promotion of Institutional deliveries through cash incentive under Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) which entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free delivery including Caesarean section, post-natal care and treatment of sick infants till one year of age.
ii. Strengthening of delivery points for providing comprehensive and quality Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A) Services, establishment of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Wings at high caseload facilities, ensuring essential newborn care at all delivery points, establishment of Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU), Newborn Stabilization Units (NBSU) and Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) units for care of sick and small babies.
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iii. Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted in convergence with Ministry of Women and Child Development. Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs) are observed for provision of maternal and child health services and creating awareness on maternal and child care including health and nutrition education. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched MAA-Mothers' Absolute Affection programme in August 2016 for improving breastfeeding practices (Initiate Breastfeeding within one hour, Exclusive Breastfeeding up to six months and complementary Breastfeeding up to two years) through mass media and capacity building of health care providers in health facilities as well as in communities.
iv. Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is being supported to provide vaccination to children against many life threatening diseases such as Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Measles, Hepatitis B, Meningitis and Pneumonia due to Haemophilus Influenza type B. The Government of India has also launched Mission Indradhanush to reach unreached children. In addition, vaccination against Japanese Encephalitis is carried out in endemic districts and vaccination against Rotavirus diarrhoea is provided in select states.
v. Name based tracking of mothers and children till two years of age is done to ensure complete antenatal, intranatal, postnatal care and complete immunization as per schedule.
vi. Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) for health screening, early detection of birth defects, diseases, deficiencies, development delays including disability and early intervention services has been operationalized to provide comprehensive care to all the children in the age group of 0-18 years in the community.
vii. Some other important interventions are Iron and folic acid (IFA) supplementation for the prevention of anaemia among the vulnerable age groups, annual deworming on National Deworming Day (NDD), home visits by ASHAs under Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC) to promote community care practices and early referral of sick newborns and promote use of ORS and Zinc for management of diarrhoea in children.
viii. Various trainings are being conducted to train doctors, nurses and ANMs for antenatal, intranatal and post-natal care, essential newborn care, early diagnosis and case management of common ailments of children.
ix. To sharpen the focus on the low performing districts, 184 High Priority Districts (HPDs) at National level and 19 High Priority Districts (HPDs) in the state of Uttar Pradesh have been prioritized for Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child Health+ Adolescent (RMNCH+A) interventions for achieving improved maternal and child health outcomes.
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